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OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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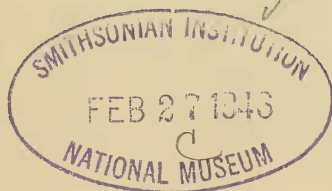
FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 171

Suspension of the rules for *Nymphidium*
Fabricius, 1807 (Class Insecta, Order Lepido-
ptera)



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OPINION 171.

SUSPENSION OF THE RULES FOR *NYMPHIDIUM* FABRICIUS, 1807 (CLASS INSECTA, ORDER LEPIDOPTERA).

SUMMARY.—Under suspension of the rules it is hereby declared (i) that the name *Nymphidium* Fabricius, 1807 (Class Insecta, Order Lepidoptera) (type : *Papilio caricae* Linnaeus, 1758) shall not be rejected in favour of *Limnas* Hübner, [1806] (type : *Limnas leucosia* Hübner, [1806]) ; (ii) that the name *Limnas* Hübner is to be treated as suppressed for all purposes ; and (iii) that the name *Nymphidium* Fabricius is therefore valid. The name *Nymphidium* Fabricius, 1807, with the type indicated above, is hereby added to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 614.

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

This case was submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in a letter dated 24th October 1934, in which Commissioner Francis Hemming and Mr. N. D. Riley, Keeper of the Department of Entomology, British Museum (Natural History), jointly invited the Commission to render *Opinions* in regard to this, and certain other, generic names in the Order Lepidoptera. The passage in that letter relating to the name *Nymphidium* Fabricius, 1807, reads as follows :—

- (a) We recommend that the following names ¹ should be added by the International Commission to the *Official List of Generic Names*. Our reasons for so recommending are fully set out in the statements, the terms of which we have jointly agreed, contained in Hemming's *Generic Names of the Holarctic Butterflies* on the pages noted below :—

Nymphidium Fabricius, 1807 (Hemming, *loc. cit.* 1 : 102–103).

2. The following is an extract from the work referred to above of the passage relating to this genus :—

¹ The other generic names referred to in this letter were *Euploea* Fabricius, 1807, which has since been dealt with by the International Commission in *Opinion* 163 (see pp. 335–346 above) and *Euthalia* Hübner, [1819], which has since been dealt with in *Opinion* 167 (see pp. 399–410 above).

NYMPHIDIUM Fabricius

Fabricius, 1807, *Mag. f. Insektenk.* (Illiger) **6** : 286

Westwood, 1851, in Doubleday, *Gen. Diurn. Lep.* (2) : 447

Crotch, 1872, *Cistula ent.* **1** : 66

Scudder, 1875, *Proc. Amer. Acad. Arts Sci.*, Boston **10** : 230

TYPE : *Papilio caricae* Linn., 1758

Fabricius said that there were twenty-eight species in this genus and mentioned three by name. Westwood said that he considered the genus "well exemplified by *caricae* and *lamis*," and Crotch definitely selected *caricae* Linn. (one of Fabricius' species) as the type, basing his decision on Westwood's action. Scudder was not justified in trying to change the type to *telephus* Fab. (= *thelephus* Cram.). The genus *Nymphidium* Fab. has no holarctic species, but the name is included here in view of the fact that its synonyms, *Eulepis* Billb. and *Limnas* Hübner,² have been widely (but wrongly) used for palaearctic species.

Under a strict interpretation of the International Code, the name *Nymphidium* Fab. should be sunk as a synonym of *Limnas* Hübner. There are, however, very strong objections to such a course. These may be summarised as follows :—

- (a) The name *Nymphidium* Fab. has been universally applied to *Papilio caricae* Linn., 1758, and its congeners ever since its establishment by Fabricius in 1807.
- (b) The name *Limnas* Hübner has never been applied to these species, except in the present case by Hübner in his *Sammlung exotischer Schmetterlinge*. On the contrary, following Hübner's own use in the *Tentamen* (now rejected by *Opinion* 97 of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature), the name *Limnas* Hübner, when used, has always been employed for a genus of DANAIIDAE, *Papilio plexippus* Linn., 1758, being regarded as its type.
- (c) There is, however, a name *Lymnas* (Boisduval MS.) Blanchard, 1840 (in Brullé, *Hist. nat. Anim. artic.* (Orth.) **3** : 464) which has been, and still is, widely used for an entirely different group of RIODINIDAE.
- (d) To sink the well-known and universally-used generic name *Nymphidium* Fab. as a synonym of *Limnas* Hübner, as is required by a strict application of the rules of the International Code, would serve no useful purpose whatever, but would, on the contrary, clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity.

3. Commissioner Hemming went on to say that, jointly with Mr. N. D. Riley, he was submitting to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature a recommendation that, in the exercise of the plenary power conferred upon them by the International Zoological Congress, the Commission should as soon as possible take the steps laid down by the Congress for the promulgation of an *Opinion* to the following effect :—

² On the following page (: 104) in the account of the name *Limnas* Hübner, it was pointed out that pl. [29] in volume 1 of Hübner's *Sammlung exotischer Schmetterlinge* (the place where this name was first published after the *Tentamen*, which the Commission had rejected by *Opinion* 97) had already been published by November 1806. It is now known to have been published between August and November in that year (see Hemming, 1937, *Hübner* **1** : 401).

The name *Nymphidium* Fab., 1807 (*Mag. f. Insektenk.* (Illiger) 6 : 286), the type of which is *Papilio caricae* Linn., 1758, is hereby added to the *Official List of Generic Names*. The name *Limnas* Hübner, [1806] (*Samml. exot. Schmett.* 1 : pl. [29]), is not to be substituted for *Nymphidium* Fab., notwithstanding the fact that it has one year's priority over that name.

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE.

4. As a first step the Commission decided to invite the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature to report on the present application. This case was accordingly considered by the International Committee at their meeting held at Madrid in the second week of September 1935 during the Sixth International Congress of Entomology. After careful consideration, the Committee agreed to recommend the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to take such steps as they might consider necessary under their plenary powers to secure that *Limnas* Hübner, [1806] (type : *Limnas leucosia* Hübner, [1806]), should not be substituted for *Nymphidium* Fabricius, 1807 (type : *Papilio caricae* Linnaeus, 1758) as the name of the genus of the Neotropical genus of RIODINIDAE commonly so called.

5. This and other recommendations adopted by the International Committee on Entomological Nomenclature at their Madrid meeting were confirmed by the Sixth International Congress of Entomology at the Concilium Plenum held at Madrid on 12th September 1935.

III.—THE CONCLUSION REACHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION.

6. When the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature met at Lisbon immediately after the close of the Sixth International Congress of Entomology in September 1935, they found themselves confronted with a large number of cases involving proposals for the suspension of the rules, in respect of some of which advertisements had not been published or, if published, had not been published for the prescribed period, owing to the illness of Dr. C. W. Stiles, Secretary to the Commission, or for other causes. In these circumstances, the Commission decided at their meeting held on the morning of Monday, 16th September 1935 (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 9), that immediate consideration should be given to all cases submitted to the Commission that, in their judgment, had reached the stage at which a

decision could properly be taken; that the By-Laws of the Commission should be suspended during the Lisbon Session to such extent as might be necessary to give effect to this decision; and that, in so far as this procedure involved taking decisions "under suspension of the rules" in cases where the prescribed advertisement procedure had not been complied with, the cases in question should be duly advertised as soon as might be practicable after the conclusion of the Lisbon Congress and that no *Opinion* should be rendered and published thereon until after the expiry of a period of one year from the date on which the said advertisement was despatched to the prescribed journals for publication. The case of the name *Nymphidium* Fabricius, 1807, was one of the cases in question and was accordingly dealt with under the above procedure.

7. This case was considered by the International Commission later in the course of the meeting referred to above (Lisbon Session, 2nd Meeting, Conclusion 22), when it was agreed³ :—

(a) to "suspend the rules" in the case of the following generic names :—

(vi) *Nymphidium* Fabricius, 1807, *Mag. f. Insektenk.* (Illiger) 6 : 286

(g) to declare that the name *Nymphidium* Fabricius, 1807, *Mag. f. Insektenk.* (Illiger) 6 : 286 (type: *Papilio caricae* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) : 484) shall not be rejected in favour of *Limnas* Hübner, [1806] (*Samml. exot. Schmett.* 1 : pl. [29]) (type: *Limnas leucosia* Hübner, [1806], *ibid.*); that the name *Limnas* Hübner is to be treated as suppressed for all purposes; and therefore that the name *Nymphidium* Fabricius, 1807, is valid;

(i) to add the generic names . . . *Nymphidium* Fabricius, 1807, . . . to the *Official List of Generic Names*, with the types indicated above;

(l) to render *Opinions* in the sense of (a) to (k) above.

8. The foregoing decisions were embodied in paragraph 28 of the report⁴ which at their meeting held on the morning of Wednesday, 18th September 1935, the Commission (Lisbon Session, 5th Meeting, Conclusion 6) unanimously agreed to submit to the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology. That report was unanimously approved by the Section on Nomenclature at its joint meeting with the International Commission held on the afternoon of the same day. It was thereupon submitted to the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology by which it was

³ Only those portions of Conclusion 22 which refer to the present case are here quoted. For the full text of Conclusion 22, see 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 20–23.

⁴ See 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 60–61.

unanimously approved and adopted at the Concilium Plenum held on the afternoon of Saturday, 21st September 1935, the last day of the Congress.

9. In accordance with the decision taken by the Commission at Lisbon in regard to their procedure at that Session (paragraph 6 above), this case was duly advertised in 1936 in two or more of the journals named in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913,⁵ by which the said International Congress conferred upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature plenary power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity. In the period that has elapsed since the advertisement in the said journals of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the present case, no communication of any kind has been addressed to the Commission objecting to the issue of an *Opinion* in the terms proposed.

10. The present *Opinion* was concurred in by the twelve (12) Commissioners and Alternates present at the Lisbon Session of the International Commission, namely :—

Commissioners :—Calman ; Hemming ; Jordan ; Pellegrin ; Peters ; and Stejneger.
 Alternates :—do Amaral *vice* Cabrera ; Ohshima *vice* Esaki ; Bradley *vice* Stone ; Beier *vice* Handlirsch ; Arndt *vice* Richter ; and Mortensen *vice* Apstein.

11. The present *Opinion* was dissented from by no Commissioner or Alternate present at the Lisbon Session. Nor since that Session has any Commissioner who was neither present on that occasion nor represented thereat by an Alternate indicated disagreement with the conclusions then reached by the Commission in this matter. The following five (5) Commissioners who were not present at Lisbon nor represented thereat by Alternates did not vote on the above *Opinion* :—

Bolivar y Peltain ; Chapman ; Fantham ; Silvestri ; and Stiles.

12. At the time when the vote was taken on the present *Opinion*, there was one (1) vacancy in the Commission consequent upon the death of Commissioner Horváth.

⁵ See Declaration 5 (1943, *Opinions and Declarations rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature* 1 : 31-40).

IV.—AUTHORITY FOR THE ISSUE OF THE PRESENT
OPINION.

WHEREAS the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913, adopted a Resolution conferring upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, plenary power to suspend the rules as applied to any given case, where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the rules would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity, provided that not less than one year's notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the said case should be given in two or more of five journals specified in the said Resolution, and provided that the vote in the Commission was unanimously in favour of the proposed suspension of the rules ; and

WHEREAS the suspension of the rules is required to give valid force to the provisions of the present *Opinion* as set out in the summary thereof ; and

WHEREAS not less than one year's notice of the possible suspension of the rules as applied to the present case has been given to two or more of the journals specified in the Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held in Monaco in March 1913 ; and

WHEREAS the vote in the Commission at their Lisbon Session was unanimously in favour of the issue of an *Opinion* in the terms of the present *Opinion* ;

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon me in that behalf by reason of holding the said Office of Secretary to the International Commission, hereby announce the said *Opinion* on behalf of the International Commission, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, and direct that it be rendered and printed as *Opinion* Number One Hundred and Seventy One (*Opinion* 171) of the said Commission.

In faith whereof I, the undersigned FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, have signed the present *Opinion*.

DONE at Aldeburgh in the County of Suffolk, this seventh day of September Nineteen Hundred and Forty Three, in a single copy, which shall remain deposited in the archives of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature.*

FRANCIS HEMMING

THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

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Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature.

This journal has been established by the International Commission as their Official Organ in order to provide a medium for the publication of :—

- (a) proposals on zoological nomenclature submitted to the International Commission for deliberation and decision ;
- (b) comments received from, and correspondence by the Secretary with, zoologists on proposals published in the *Bulletin* under (a) above ; and
- (c) papers on nomenclatorial implications of developments in taxonomic theory and practice.

The *Bulletin* was established in 1943. Seven Parts of volume 1 have now been published. Further Parts are in the press.

Opinions and Declarations Rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

The above work is being published in three volumes concurrently, namely :—

Volume 1. This volume will contain *Declarations* 1-9 (which have never previously been published) and *Opinions* 1-133 (the original issue of which is now out of print). Parts 1-21 (containing *Declarations* 1-9 and *Opinions* 1-12) have now been published. Further Parts will be published shortly.

Volume 2. This volume, which contains the record of the decisions taken by the International Commission at Lisbon in 1935, is being published in two Sections (Sections A and B) with continuous pagination. Of these, Section A, containing *Declarations* 10-12 and *Opinions* 134-160, is now complete. Of Section B, which will contain *Opinions* 161-181, Parts 31-45 (containing *Opinions* 161-175) have now been published. The remaining Parts of this volume are in the press and will be published as soon as possible.

Volume 3. This volume, which commenced with *Opinion* 182, will contain the *Opinions* adopted by the International Commission since their meeting at Lisbon in 1935. Parts 1-11 (containing *Opinions* 182-192) have now been published. Further Parts will be published as soon as possible.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

The International Commission appeal earnestly to all institutions and individuals interested in the development of zoological nomenclature to contribute, according to their means, to the Commission's Special (Publications) Fund. Of the total sum of £1,800 required to enable the Commission to issue all the publications now awaiting printing, donations amounting to £969 16s. 1d. were received up to 30th June 1945. Additional contributions are urgently needed in order to enable the Commission to continue their work without interruption. Contributions of any amount, however small, will be most gratefully received.

Contributions should be sent to the International Commission at their Publications Office, 41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W. 7, and made payable to the "International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature or Order" and crossed "Account payee. Coutts & Co."

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